CROSS-REFERENCE FILE

NOTE

SUBJECT Relations between Japan and Turkey.

In press interview given by former Japanese Ambassador to Turkey, Toshihikb Taketomi, he referred to improved,-

FLH

767.94/18

For the original paper from which reference is taken

See desp # 5149
(Despatch, telegram, instruction, letter, etc.)

Dated Nov. 19, 1940 From/To Japan(Grew)

File No. 867.00/3102

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 1—1540

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

NMC
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental agency. (BR)

FROM Ankara

Dated September 21, 1942

Rec'd 9:02 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

ADVISER ON POLITICAL RELATIONS MR. HORNBECK OCT 1 1942 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE SEP 23 1942 DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Division of FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS SEP 23 1942 Department of State

932, September 21, noon

The press announces the arrival in Istanbul of Admirals Nomura and Abe, respectively Japanese Naval Attaches to Berlin and Rome where they were joined by two other Japanese diplomats named Haisita and Funaki. Admiral Nomura stressed the private character of his visit.

In reply to inquiries by newspaper correspondents the Japanese Naval Attache in Istanbul stated that the visitors had come to Turkey to acquaint themselves with conditions and that the visit had no connection with Germany. In reply to a question as to whether the Germans had sent his compatriots to Turkey to offset Willkie's visit the Japanese Naval Attache replied, "The visit has no connection with Germany. Japan is not a vassal of Germany."

STEINHARDT

EMB

767.94/19

PS/LMB

FILED OCT 1 1942

767.94 note 701.9462 701.9465

November 29, 1944.

In reply refer to
NE
SECRET

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There will be found enclosed a paraphrase of a telegram dated November 24, 1944 from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax dealing with the possibility of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan. In handing this message to an officer of the Department the representative of the British Embassy made it clear that the comments of the British Ambassador in Ankara had not yet been received regarding it.

I will appreciate your views as to the desirability, from the point of view of the Navy Department, of asking the Turks to sever diplomatic relations with Japan, and I am addressing a similar letter to the Secretary of War.

If agreement is reached that a break in Turco-Japanese relations would contribute to the war effort, the Department will consult Ambassador Steinhardt with a view to achieving this end. Indications are that the Turkish Government would be willing to fulfill any reasonable request made to it by the American and British Governments.

Sincerely yours,

E. Stettinius, Jr.

Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Paraphrase of Telegram,
November 24, 1944.

The Honorable

James V. Forrestal,

Secretary of the Navy.

NE:GLJ:ac 11/29/44

767.94/11-2944
Confidential File
CS/HS
767.94/11-2944

copy

Paraphrase of telegram from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax
dated November 24, 1944.

Previous objections to idea of requesting Turkish Government to break off relations with Japan have now disappeared. Roumania and Bulgaria under pressure from His Majesty's Government and United States Government have set a good example in breaking off relations with Japan, and Soviet Government have made it clear, particularly at Moscow Conference, that they are not inclined to be tender towards Japan.

Rupture of Turco-Japanese relations would therefore offer many advantages and I am in favour of a combined Anglo-American request to the Turkish Government to take this step. This would be outside the scope of Anglo-Turkish alliance but could be based on desirability of the Turks making concrete contribution to Allied victory against Japan and thus helping to shorten world war. We could point out that apart from consideration described above Turkey lies not far off the route between Great Britain and the Far East and by rupture of relations with Japan could remove important

Japanese/

Japanese points of observation of Allied preparations. I do not consider that Turkey should at this stage be asked to declare war on Japan as I feel certain that she would refuse on grounds which would no doubt be justified, that she could make no contribution to operations against Japan

November 29, 1944

In reply refer to
NE

SECRET

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There will be found enclosed a paraphrase of a telegram dated November 24, 1944 from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax dealing with the possibility of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan. In handing this message to an officer of the Department the representative of the British Embassy made it clear that the comments of the British Ambassador in Ankara had not yet been received regarding it.

I will appreciate your views as to the desirability, from the point of view of the War Department, of asking the Turks to sever diplomatic relations with Japan, and I am addressing a similar letter to the Secretary of the Navy.

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Sincerely yours,

Edward R. Stettinius, Jr.

Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Paraphrase of Telegram,
November 24, 1944.

The Honorable

Henry L. Stimson,

Secretary of War.

NE:GLJ:ac 11/29/44

767.94/11-2944

CS..HS

Confidential File

A true copy of the signed original

Paraphrase of telegram from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax dated November 24, 1944.

Previous objections to idea of requesting Turkish Government to break off relations with Japan have now disappeared. Roumania and Bulgaria under pressure from His Majesty's Government and United States Government have set a good example in breaking off relations with Japan, and Soviet Government have made it clear, particularly at Moscow Conference, that they are not inclined to be tender towards Japan.

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Japanese/

SECRET

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
RECEIVED
DEC 8 - 1944
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

OFFICE OF NEAR EASTERN AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
DEC 8 - 1944
MR. ALLING
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

4414

7 DEC 1944

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Your letter of November 29th enclosing the paraphrase of a telegram dated November 24th from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax has been received.

Your letter asks my views as to the desirability of requesting Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan. After a survey of the situation in this Department we find that there are a number of considerations which would make such a break advantageous from the point of view of our over-all military operations and we know of no military disadvantage which would flow from Turkey taking this step. Accordingly, I would urge that the representations referred to by Mr. Eden should be made to the Turkish Government.

Sincerely yours,

James Forrestal

The Honorable
The Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 8 - 1944
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
NND 730032
By DR/MNW NARS, Date 2/19/75

FW 767.84/11-2044

Confidential File

December 4, 1944

No. 371

SECRET

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,

Moscow.

The Secretary of State transmits for the secret information of the Officer in Charge a copy of a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War in connection with the possibility of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan.

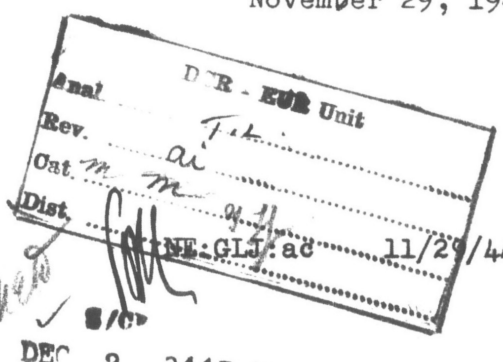
The Officer in Charge will be kept informed of developments.

767.94/11-2944 EG

767.94/11-2944

Enclosure:

✓ Letter to the Secretary of the Navy, November 29, 1944.



DEC 2 3 44 P.M.

Confidential File

767.94/11-2944

SECRET

In reply refer to
NE

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There will be found enclosed a paraphrase of a telegram dated November 24, 1944 from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax dealing with the possibility of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan. In handing this message to an officer of the Department the representative of the British Embassy made it clear that the comments of the British Ambassador in Ankara had not yet been received regarding it.

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If agreement is reached that a break in Turco-Japanese relations would contribute to the war effort, the Department will consult Ambassador Steinhardt with a view to achieving this end. Indications are that the Turkish Government would be willing to fulfill any reasonable request made to it by the American and British Governments.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Paraphrase of Telegram,
November 24, 1944.

The Honorable

James V. Forrestal,

Secretary of the Navy.

NE:GLJ:ac 11/29/44
Identical letter sent to the Secretary of War.

COPY.

Paraphrase of telegram from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax dated November 24, 1944.

Previous objections to idea of requesting Turkish Government to break off relations with Japan have now disappeared. Roumania and Bulgaria under pressure from His Majesty's Government and United States Government have set a good example in breaking off relations with Japan, and Soviet Government have made it clear, particularly at Moscow Conference, that they are not inclined to be tender towards Japan.

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Japanese/

December 4, 1944

No. 4827

SECRET

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,

London.

The Secretary of State transmits for the secret information of the Officer in Charge a copy of a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War in connection with the possibility of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan.

The Officer in Charge will be kept informed of developments.

767.94/11-2944 EG

767.94/11-2944 cf

Enclosure:

✓ Letter to the Secretary of the Navy, November 29, 1944.

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Dist. 2 344 P M
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NE:GLH:ac 11/29/44 SECRET

767.94/11-2944

Confidential File

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NOV 2? 1944

In reply refer to
NE

My dear Mr. Secretary:

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Sincerely yours,

Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Paraphrase of Telegram,
November 24, 1944.

The Honorable

James V. Forrestal,

Secretary of the Navy.

*Identical letter sent to Secretary of War

C
O
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Y

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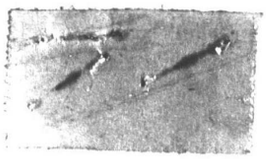
Japanese/



December 4, 1944

No. 530

SECRET

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,

Ankara.

The Secretary of State transmits for the secret information of the Officer in Charge a copy of a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of War in connection with the possibility of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan.

The Officer in Charge will be kept informed of developments.

Enclosure:

✓ Letter to the Secretary of the Navy, November 29, 1944.

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DEC 2 3 44 P.M.

NE:GLD:ac 11/29/44

SECRET

767.94/12-444

Confidential File

767.94/12-444

COPY

NOV 2 1944

In reply refer to
NE

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There will be found enclosed a paraphrase of a telegram dated November 24, 1944 from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax dealing with the possibility of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan. In handing this message to an officer of the Department the representative of the British Embassy made it clear that the comments of the British Ambassador in Ankara had not yet been received regarding it.

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Sincerely yours,

Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Paraphrase of Telegram,
November 24, 1944.

The Honorable

James V. Forrestal,

Secretary of the Navy.

*Identical letter sent to Secretary of War

COPY

Paraphrase of telegram from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax dated November 24, 1944.

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Japanese/

SECRET

WAR DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

NE
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December 9, 1944

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Your letter of November 29 enclosing the paraphrase of a telegram, dated November 24, 1944, from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax has been received.

Your letter asks my views as to the desirability of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan. After a survey of the situation in this department we find that there are a number of considerations which would make such a break advantageous from the point of view of our overall military operations and we know of no military disadvantage which would flow from Turkey taking this step. Accordingly I would urge that the representations referred to by Mr. Eden should be made to the Turkish Government.

Faithfully yours,

acting Secretary of War

767.94/12-944

Confidential File - 1946

FILED

DCR - NE Unit
Final. mrl
Rev. mrl
Cat.
Dist.

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)
NND 730032
By DK mkw NARS, Date 2/19/75

SECRET

SECRET

MEMORANDUM

Reference is made to the paraphrase of Mr. Eden's telegram of November 24 to Lord Halifax, handed to Mr. Alling of the Office of Near Eastern and African Affairs. Following consultation with the War and Navy Departments, the Department agrees that the representations suggested by Mr. Eden should be made to the Turkish Government with a view to the latter severing at the earliest possible date diplomatic relations with Japan.

The Department has telegraphed to Ambassador Steinhardt in Ankara authorization to act in concert with his British colleague, as soon as the latter receives similar instructions from the Foreign Office, and to take up this question with the Turkish authorities in the manner agreed between the two Ambassadors as being the most effective.

In

Confidential File

In connection with Sir Maurice Peterson's telegram of November 27, a copy of which was handed to Mr. Alling by Mr. Michael Wright on November 29, the Department does not believe the Turks will want to go so far as to declare war on Japan. However, if the Turks themselves wish to declare war, the Department sees no reason to discourage them.

Handed to Mr. Pares of the British Embassy 12/16/44

Department of State,

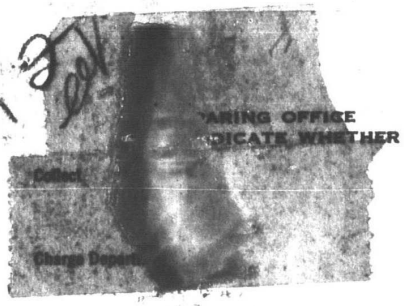
Washington,

767.94/12-944

S/CR DEC 15 1944 P.M.

NE:GLJ:lk 12/14/44

JA FE NEA EUR KTW EE CAB



Charge to

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington,

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED
CLEAR

SECRET

DEC 15

7 P.m.

AMEMBASSY,

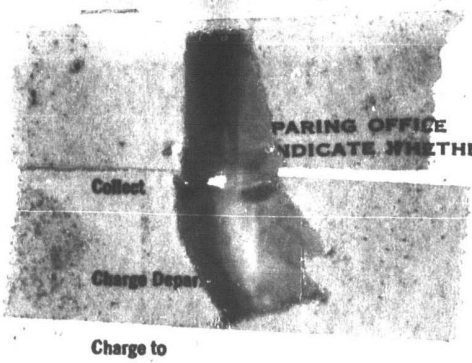
ANKARA.

1180

1. The British Embassy handed the Department a paraphrase of a telegram from Mr. Eden to Lord Halifax dated November 24, which states that previous objections to the idea of requesting the Turkish Government to break relations with Japan have now disappeared. The message states that a good example has been set by Rumania and Bulgaria breaking relations with Japan under pressure from the British and American Governments and that the Soviet Government, particularly at the Moscow Conference, made it clear that the USSR was not inclined to be tender towards Japan. Eden adds that he favors a combined Anglo-American request to the Turkish Government to take this step, outside the scope of the Anglo-Turkish Alliance, but based on the desirability of Turkey helping to shorten the war by making a concrete contribution to the Allied victory against Japan. The message states that our Governments could point out, apart from this consideration, that Turkey lies

767.94/12-1544

Confidential File



TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington,

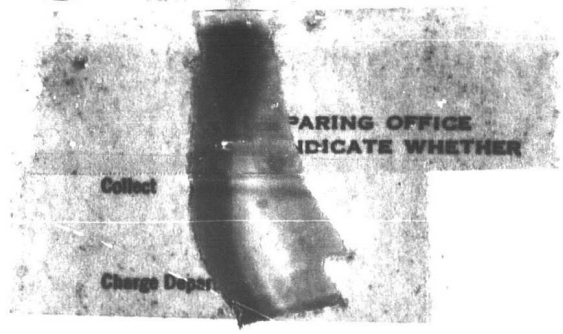
TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED
CLEAR

SECRET

along the route between the Far East and Great Britain and that important Japanese points of observation of Allied operations would be removed by the rupture of Turkey's relations with Japan. In closing Mr. Eden expresses the view that at this stage Turkey should not be asked to declare war on Japan because he feels certain that Turkey would refuse on the justified grounds that Turkey could make no contribution to operations against the Japanese.

2. This message was sent to the Secretary of War and to the Secretary of the Navy on November 29, with request for their views as to the desirability of asking Turkey to sever diplomatic relations with Japan.

3. Identical replies have now been received from the War and Navy Departments stating that after studying the situation it has been found that there are a number of considerations which would make such a break advantageous from the point of view of our over-all military operations and that the two Departments know of no military disadvantage which would flow from



TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
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SECRET

Charge to

Washington,

Turkey's taking this step. The letters urged that the representations referred to by Mr. Eden should be made to the Turkish Government.

4. In view of the foregoing you are authorized to act in concert with your British colleague and, as soon as the latter receives similar instructions from London, to take this question up with the Turkish authorities in the manner agreed between you as the most effective.

5. The suggestion has been made that the Turks might wish to go beyond a break in diplomatic relations and, having in mind the acquisition thereby of belligerent status, to declare war on Japan. In the circumstances the Department considers it most unlikely that the Turks will suggest this. However, if they should do so, the Department sees no particular reason why they should be discouraged in this connection provided no additional burden on Allied resources will be thereby involved.

Collect

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TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Charge to

Washington,

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED
CLEAR

SECRET

6. The British Embassy here is being advised of the foregoing.

Sent Ankara, repeated to London, and to Moscow.

Stettinius

Code Room:
Send to Ankara as Department's 1160.
Repeat to London as Department's 10461.
Repeat to Moscow as Department's 2836.

CONTINUED

S/CR
DEC 15 1944 P.M.

AN JA FE NEA EUR EE TCB BC

NE:GLW:lk 12/14/44

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

AE
FA
EE
NEA

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
JAN 1 - 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of
FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
JAN 2 - 1945
DIRECTOR
Department of State

JP-53

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (SECRET)

Ankara

Dated December 20, 1944

Rec'd 2:52 a.m., 21st.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 21 1944
DIVISION OF FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

Secretary of State,

Washington.

2389, December 20, 7 p.m.

SECRET

In conversation with the British Ambassador this morning I conveyed to him substance of Department's 1180 December 15. Peterson informed me that he has not as yet received instructions from London on the subject.

It was agreed between us that as soon as Peterson's instructions arrive we will individually, but on the same day, approach either the Prime Minister or Foreign Minister as may be agreed upon between us at the time.

Repeated to London as 81 and Moscow as 5.

STEINHARDT

JMS

DCR - NE Unit
Final ... 10/6
Rev. ... 10/6
Cat. ... Secret
Dist. ...

FILED
JAN 5 1945

767.94/12-2044

Confidential File

767.94/12-2044

~~GEA~~
PHA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

~~EMA~~ to file

SECRET

DATE: December 22, 1944

SUBJECT: Severance of Relations Between Turkey and Japan.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. John Russell, British Embassy.
Mr. Jones, NE.

COPIES TO:

F.W. 767.94/12-2044

FILED CONFIDENTIAL FILE

DEC 2 1946

ORO 1—1493

Mr. Russell called on me at 3 o'clock this afternoon by appointment to show me a British Foreign Office telegram received by the British Embassy in connection with the above subject. He said that on receipt of the Department's memorandum, its contents had been telegraphed to the Foreign Office. In the message shown to me the Foreign Office only pronounced on the point first raised by Sir Maurice Peterson in Turkey, i.e., the Turks might wish to go further and declare war against Japan. The Foreign Office thought that a declaration of war with the Turks would serve no useful purpose militarily and "would be unlikely to gain the Turks any credit with the Russians".

Mr. Russell and I agreed that the latest Foreign Office telegram did not indicate what the Foreign Office proposed to do in connection with the most important issue - asking the Turks to sever diplomatic relations with Japan. Mr. Russell said that he would ask the Foreign Office to let them know the instructions being sent to the British Ambassador in Ankara in this connection. I showed Mr. Russell Ankara's 2389, December 20, 7 p.m. in which Steinhardt reports that the British Ambassador has not yet received instructions from the Foreign Office, but when these instructions are received, he and his British colleague have agreed that separately but on the same day they will take up with the Turks the question of severing diplomatic relations with Japan.

767.94/12-2044

NE:GLJones:MW

SECRET

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

Collect

Charge Department:

Charge to

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED
CLEAR

SECRET

Washington, JAN 2 1945

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. SECRET

Mid

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON.

40

REDEPTS 10461, December 15, 7 p.m. (repeated to Moscow as Department's 2836) and Ankara's 881, December 20 to London (repeated to Moscow as Ankara's 5). Department has received December 26 telegram from Ankara reporting that Steinhardt and his British colleague called on Foreign Minister that date and left with him aide memoires substantially as follows:

QUOTE In suggesting to the Turkish Government that it sever diplomatic relations with Japan, the Government of the United States believes that the Turkish Government may desire to help shorten the war by making a concrete contribution to the Allied victory against Japan. At the same time, such a severance of diplomatic relations would have the effect of depriving the Japanese of important points of observation of Allied operations UNQUOTE.

Foreign Minister, without pre-determining Turkish Government's reply, said that he could see in the desired step little advantage to Turkey, but that if QUOTE Turkey's Allies UNQUOTE believed such action would be to their

767.94/12-2644

767.94/12-2644
CS/MAH

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

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Charge Department:

Charge to

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington,

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
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SECRET

advantage, the suggestion would be given most careful consideration by the Turkish Government. Foreign Minister inquired of Steinhardt as to Russian point of view and was told that while Steinhardt was without information as to USSR position, it was his personal opinion that USSR would see in severance of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Japan a decided advantage because Japs would be deprived of a vantage point for observation and espionage purposes at a time when movement of war material through the Straits to Russia was about to begin.

The Foreign Minister promised early reply and on December 30 informed Steinhardt that Turkish Government has decided to break off all diplomatic and economic relations with Japan, the Turkish aide memoire handed Steinhardt reading as follows:

QUOTE The Government of the Republic notes that the request of the Government of the United States is based on the consideration that such a rupture in constituting a concrete contribution by Turkey to the Allied victory in the Far East would have the effect of shortening the duration of the World War.

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

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Charge Department:

Charge to

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

Washington,

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
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SECRET

QUOTE Thus this Government which ardently desires the rapid and complete victory of the Allies has decided to submit during the session the question of the rupture of its diplomatic and economic relations with Japan to the approval of the Grand National Assembly. Dated Ankara December 30 UNQUOTE.

Foreign Minister said that he anticipated no difficulty in obtaining Grand National Assembly approval.

In January 1 telegram Steinhardt urgently recommends that every effort be made to give maximum favorable publicity to Turkish Government's action when announced because Turk authorities feel that during recent months they have had a rather indifferent press in the United States and that their rupture of all diplomatic and economic relations with Japan will constitute primarily a gesture to the United States.

Sent to London, repeated to Moscow.

Stettinius
(EPM)

JAN 2 1945 P.M.

Code Room:

Please repeat to Moscow as Department's 11V.

767.94/12-2444

NE:GLJ:MW 1/2/45

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

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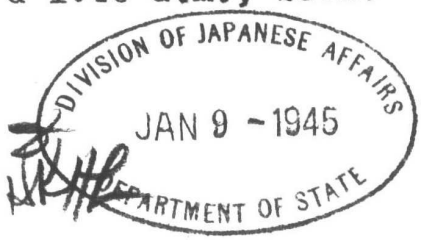
~~FA~~
EE
~~NEA~~
FE
~~NE~~

JMM-1655
This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (SECRET)

Ankara

Dated December 27, 1944

Rec'd 1:46 a.m., 28th.



Secretary of State

Washington

2416, December 27, 4 p.m.

SECRET

The British Ambassador has informed me that he has now received his instructions to approach the Turk Government with a view to the severance of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Japan. Separate appointments have been made by Peterson and myself to see the Foreign Minister tomorrow. We will leave with Isaka similar aide memoires based on our respective instructions which are substantially identical (Department's 2389, December 20).

STEINHARDT

EH

767.94/12-2744

FILED
JAN 13 1945

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Confidential File

767.94/12-2744

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Anal. [illegible]
Rev. [illegible]
Cat. [illegible]
Dist. [illegible]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
JAN 9 - 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

NE
JA
FE
NEA
EUR
EE
BC

LFG-364
No paraphrase necessary (SECRET)

Ankara

Dated December 28, 1944

Rec'd 8:40 a.m., 30th

OFFICE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS
JAN 2 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Des to Ankara & London 1-2-45 GLJ/MW

JAN 1 -
DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

FJ

2421, December 28, 3 p.m.

SECRET

767.94/12-1544 767.94/12-2044

Department's 1180, December 15 and my 2389,

767.94/12-2744

December 20 and 2416, December 27.

I called on the Minister for Foreign Affairs this morning to express to him the desirability of a severance of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Japan. I left with him an aide memoire drafted in agreement with the British Ambassador the English text of which reads as follows: "In suggesting to the Turkish Government that it sever diplomatic relations with Japan, the Government of the United States believes that the Turkish Government may desire to help shorten the war by making a concrete contribution to the Allied victory against Japan. At the same time, such a severance of diplomatic relations would have the effect of depriving the Japanese of important points of observation of Allied operations".

Saka stated

767.94/12-2844

Confidential File

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JAN 6 1945

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Saka stated that without predetermining the reply his Government might make he could see little advantage to Turkey in taking the desired step but that if "Turkey's allies" believed such action would be to their ~~ad(*)ould~~ advantage he was certain his government would give the most careful consideration to the suggestion.

He then inquired as to the Russian point of view. I said that while I had no (repeat no) information as to the Russian position, it was my personal opinion that the Russians would see a decided advantage in a severance of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Japan as it would deprive the Japanese of a vantage point for espionage and observation purposes particularly at a time when the movement of war material to Russia through the straits was imminent. Saka said he would discuss the matter with the Prime Minister at the earliest possible moment and that there would be no unreasonable delay in the reply of the Turkish Government.

The British Ambassador is seeing Saka this afternoon to take the matter up with him and will leave with him an aide memoire substantially

the same

the same as ours.

Please repeat to London and Moscow.

STEINHARDT

WMB

(*) apparent omission - repetition requested

Louise Ly NE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

CORRECTION

DSH
No paraphrase
necessary. (SECRET)

January 1, 1945

Cable from Ankara No. 2421, December 28, 3 p.m. re severance of diplomatic relations between Turkey and Japan, page 2, line 5, delete "(*)" insert "vantage he was certain his government w" should now read "their advantage he was certain his government would give", also at end of message delete "(*) apparent omission - repetition requested".

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

JRL

F.W. 767.94/12-2844 Conf.

Confidential File

SECRET

January 2, 1945

file
1-4

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Turkish Relations with Japan

You will be interested in the enclosed telegram from Ankara in which Steinhardt reports that the Turkish Government has decided to break off all diplomatic and economic relations with Japan.

Enclosure:

767.94/12-30

Telegram no. 2434,
December 30, 1944,
from Ankara.

CC TO BOHLEN AND GREW
ESC:CWY:OMH

CWY

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A true copy of the signed original

767.94/12-3

767.94/12-3044

Confidential File

PREPARING OFFICE
WILL INDICATE WHETHER

Collect

Charge Department:

Charge to

TELEGRAM SENT

Department of State

TO BE TRANSMITTED
SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL
RESTRICTED
CLEAR
SECRET

Washington, JAN 2 1945

9 PM

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone.
SECRET

AMEMBASSY,

ANKARA.

13

Substance of your 2421, December 28, your 2434, December 30 and your 2, January 1 sent to London as Department's 40 repeated to Moscow as Department's 11 .

Department is taking steps indicated in your 2, January 1.

Stettinius
(6PM)

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767.94/12-1544

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JAN 2 1945 P.M.

767.94/12-3044

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Confidential File

767.94/12-3044
CSI/MAH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DMH-625
No paraphrase necessary.
(SECRET)

Ankara

Dated December 30, 1944

Rec'd 10:40 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

PRIORITY

MOST IMMEDIATE

2434, December 30, 5 p.m.

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF JAPANESE AFFAIRS
JAN 9 - 1945
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

The Minister of Foreign Affairs asked me to call this morning and after informing me that the Turk Government has decided to break off all economic and diplomatic relations with Japan handed me an aide memoire which in translation reads as follows:

"The Turk Government has taken note of the aide memoir which the Ambassador of the United States of America on instructions from his Government was good enough to hand the Minister of Foreign Affairs on December 27 concerning a rupture by Turkey of its diplomatic relations with Japan.

"The Government of the Republic notes that the request of the Government of the United States is based on the consideration that such a rupture in constituting a concrete combination by Turkey to the Allied victory in the Far East

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Far East would have the effect of shortening the duration of the World War.

"Thus this Government which ardently desires the rapid and complete victory of the Allies has decided to submit during the session the question of the rupture of its diplomatic and economic relations with Japan to the approval of the Grand National Assembly. Dated Ankara December 30."

Saka indicated that he did not anticipate any difficulty in obtaining the approval of the Grand National Assembly to the proposed rupture of relations with Japan (Reference my 2421 December 28). 767.94/12-2844

Please repeat to London and Moscow.

STEINHARDT

LMS

Note: Delay due to the garbled condition of first message.

~~DOR~~
~~GPM~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

file DRA

~~TOP~~ SECRET

DATE: December 30, 1944

SUBJECT: Severance of Diplomatic Relations Between Turkey and Japan.

PARTICIPANTS: Mr. John Russell, British Embassy.
Mr. Jones, NE.

COPIES TO:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JAN 1 - 1945
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

767.94/12-3044

FILED
DEC 6 - 1946

CONFIDENTIAL FILE

CLASSIFICATION CHANGED TO SECRET
Authority: Ltr. 7/18/68 Wm. H. Franklin
State Dept. By: A.L. Bowley Date: 11/18/70

Mr. Russell called on me this afternoon and left with me the attached telegram from the Foreign Office to Lord Halifax. It will be noted that the British Ambassador in Ankara is instructed to act in concert with the American Ambassador in requesting the Turks to sever relations with Japan. (Note: The request, we understand, was made December 28.)

The Foreign Office telegram makes an interesting reference to the possibility that Turkey "might have a sneaking sympathy for Japan as a future make-weight to Russia".

Attachment:
Telegram 10788 (Top Secret)
of December 24 to Lord Halifax
from the Foreign Office.

NE:GLJones:MW

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~~TOP~~ SECRET

Central File: Decimal File 767.94, Political Relations Of States, Relations; Bi-Lateral Treaties., Turkey And Japan, Nov.19, 1940 - January 2, 1945. November 19, 1940 - January 2, 1945. MS Turkey, Greece, and the Balkan States: Records of the U.S. Department of State, 1930-1944: Records of the Department of State Relating to Political Relations of Turkey, Greece, and the Balkan States, 1940-1944. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com%2Fapps%2Fdoc%2FSC5111395919%2FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 23 June 2025.